



STATE OF MAINE  
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS  
AND ELECTION PRACTICES  
135 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0135

**Agenda**

**Meeting of June 9, 2004**

10:00 a.m., Commission Offices, 242 State Street, Augusta, Maine

**ROUTINE BUSINESS**

**1. Ratification of minutes of May 26, 2004 meeting**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2. Richard Tetrev/Violation of Maine Clean Election Act**

Richard Tetrev is a Maine Clean Election Act candidate for the House of Representatives in District 65 (Woolwich). He is unopposed in the Republican primary election. In order to obtain the best price, he purchased 250 signs at a cost of \$898. He used his entire primary election payment of \$456 and lent the campaign \$442, intending that the campaign would reimburse him when it received the MCEA funds for the general election. The candidate states that he did not understand that his loan constituted a contribution, and was impermissible under the MCEA. In order to mitigate the issue, he used only ½ of the signs that were ordered, so that the value of the signs he used for the primary election did not exceed \$456 (the amount of his MCEA payment for the primary election). The Commission staff recommends a finding that the candidate violated the MCEA, but that no civil penalty be assessed.

**3. Julie Sawtelle/Participation in the Maine Clean Election Act by Write-In Candidates**

Julie Sawtelle intends to seek the Green Independent nomination for House District 80 by running in the June 8 primary election as a write-in candidate. If she receives 50 write-in votes, she will be the Green Independent candidate for the seat in the General Election. At the May 12 meeting, the Commission members expressed some support for the proposal that Ms. Sawtelle could participate in the MCEA, but the statute does not explicitly address whether candidates obtaining a party nomination through this procedure may participate. Ms. Sawtelle will be present at the meeting.

**4. Policy on Requesting Information that is Omitted from Campaign Finance Reports**

At the March 11 meeting, the Commission members discussed the issue of required information that some candidates omit from the campaign finance reports. Most often, the missing information is a contributor's address, occupation, or principal place of business. The Commission members authorized the staff to follow the procedure that is

set forth in Chapter 1, Section 3(2) of the Commission Rules: sending a follow-up letter to the candidate who has filed the incomplete report, and, if the omission is not corrected within 15 days, placing the incomplete report on the agenda of the next meeting of the Commission.

A draft follow-up letter is attached, along with some recent examples of omitted information.

## **5. Other**

Miscellaneous as needed.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

If necessary.

## **ADJOURNMENT**